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Case and agreement in Panará

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STELLINGEN

behorende bij het proefschrift *Case and agreement in Panará*
van Bernat Bardagil-Mas

1. Grammatical case exists as a by-product of syntactic relations, with its own correlates in the morphosyntax.
2. The distinction between inherent case and structural case, and also between Agree-case and dependent case, is ultimately a technicality. These mechanisms all point to a broader principle, namely dependency relations between argument phrases and functional categories.
3. Cross-linguistically, ergativity is omnipresent in certain environments, e.g. nominal predicates. Jê languages are no exception. Taking this out of the equation, Jê languages are almost exclusively accusative: in non-nominal predicates they show nominative case. As nominal predicates vanished in Panará, an ergative verbal-related case emerged.
4. There is a gap in the typology between true applicatives and incorporated adpositions: P-doubling, an adpositional clitic on a cliticizing head.
5. There is a continuum in languages from completely isolating to non-configurational polysynthesis. Jê languages have been shifting towards polysynthesis, with Panará as a flat-out polysynthetic language, albeit configurational.
6. Cross-reference morphology that shows agreement with its associate participant operates in terms of entailed person notions. Individual persons as commonly thought of are an artifact of the morphological exponence of features broader than these persons.
7. In Panará, lacking a better grasp of deep syntactic alignment, case rather than grammatical relations is the most pertinent natural class of arguments.
8. Paraphrasing Bernard Pottier, we could regret that there are almost as many theories of case as theorists of case. Or we could see this as a symptom that we are inside an expansion period of research on case.
9. “This you should grasp: all arts have length and measure. Whatever you undertake, use deliberation. In earnest or in play, be of good cheer and vitality, so you may be attentive and with good courage ponder what action you should take” (Johannes Liechtenauer 1389: fol.18r; Nürnberger Handschrift GNM 3227a).
10. Feet are a major concern for the linguist. Foot structure most likely plays a crucial role in Panará prosody, and foot parasites most definitely play a crucial role in the fieldworker’s life in a Panará village.